MASTER

XXVIII

Mean Dates of First and Last Screen Frosts, 1920-55

Introduction

In the ~~attached~~ following table, the period 1920-55 was adopted as standard for the extraction of mean dates of first and last frosts, frost being defined as a temperature of 32°F. or below.

The dates were entered as days of the year counting January 1st as 1, taking into account leap year. True mean in the first column gives the information for all stations with 36 years uninterrupted observations; weighted means in the second column are for stations with records for 15-35 years and provisional means shown in brackets cover 5-14 years record. The means were taken to the nearest whole number throwing to the odd where necessary. On the rare occasions when no frost occurred, such years were omitted for that station.

The true mean was obtained by adding the days of the year and dividing by 36. Weighted and provisional means were obtained by comparing the records of the stations in the second column with the corresponding years of the stations in the first column which were most appropriate geographically. This comparison was made with at least one, and preferably two, of the stations having complete records.

The weighted means in the second column are thought to be tolerably accurate. The provisional means may need adjustment in the light of future records.

It should be noted that interpolations are not valid and these dates apply only to conditions at the specific meteorological stations. Minimum temperature can vary considerably over relatively short distances.

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February, 1960.

MEAN DATES OF FIRST AND LAST SCREEN FROSTS, 1920-55

LF = Last Frost: FF = First Frost

N. A. A. S REGIONS

South-east Region	TRUE MEAN Yrs.	LF	FF	WEIGHTED MEAN Yrs.	LF	FF
Berkshire - Reading	36	Apr. 28	Oct. 19			
Abingdon				(12	May 5	Oct. 8)
Buckinghamshire - Aylesbury				(10	May 12	Oct. 8)
Mursley				22	Apr. 30	Oct. 25
Hampshire - Bournemouth	36	Apr. 13	Nov. 5			
Southampton	36	-	Nov. 2	35	Apr. 5	-
Alice Holt Lodge				(8	May 1	-)
				(7	-	Oct. 18)
Bramley				(11	May 13	-)
				(12	-	Sep. 29)
Calshot				29	Mar. 24	Nov. 21
Portsmouth				35	Mar. 25	Nov. 21
Ringwood				(8	Apr. 13	Nov. 7)
Long Sutton				32	May 3	Oct. 22
Isle of Wight - Ryde	36	Mar. 16	Nov. 24			
Newport				34	Apr. 29	Oct. 23
Kent - East Malling				31	May 4	Oct. 15
Sittingbourne				(7	Apr. 30	Oct. 26)
Wilmington				(10	Apr. 18	-
				(11	-	Nov. 1)
Wye				30	May 1	-
				31	-	Oct. 20
Middlesex - Enfield				28	Apr. 20	Oct. 23
Oxfordshire - Oxford				31	Apr. 22	Oct. 26
Surrey - Kew	36	Apr. 7	Nov. 5			
Wisley	36	Apr. 30	Sep. 17			
Sussex (East) - Bexhill				32	Apr. 4	Nov. 9
Eastbourne				32	Apr. 1	Nov. 19
Beachy Head				25	Apr. 9	Nov. 21
Brighton				29	Mar. 30	-
				28	-	Nov. 20
Ardingley				22	Apr. 30	-
				21	-	Oct. 27
Hastings				34	Mar. 28	Nov. 26
Sussex (West) - Bognor	36	Mar. 29	Nov. 14			
WEST-MIDLAND REGION						
Shropshire - Newport				28	May 11	Oct. 6
Warwickshire - Edgbaston (B'ham)	36	Apr. 9	Nov. 11			
Stratford				15	May 19	-
				14	-	Sep. 30
Worcester - Perdiswell				26	May 5	-
				25	-	Oct. 8
NORTHERN REGION						
Cumberland - Newton Rigg.	36	May 9	Oct. 4			
Durham - Houghall				31	May 25	Sep. 30
Northumberland - Cockle Park	36	May 5	Oct. 30			
Westmorland - Ambleside				25	May 9	Oct. 12
YORKS & LANCS. REGION						
Yorks (N. Riding) - Ampleforth	36	Apr. 30	Oct. 31			
Yorks (W. Riding) - Wakefield	36	May 6	Oct. 22			
Askham Bryan				19	May 5	-
				18	-	Oct. 19
Bingley				21	May 9	-
				22	-	Oct. 26

MEAN DATES OF FIRST AND LAST SCREEN FROSTS, 1920-55 (continued)

LF = Last Frost: FF = First Frost

R. A. A. S REGIONS

	TRUE MEAN			WEIGHTED MEAN		
	Yrs.	LF	FF	Yrs.	LF	FF
YORKS & LANCS. REGION (Con'd)						
Lancashire - Darwen				35	Apr. 29	Nov. 2
SOUTH-WESTERN REGION						
Cornwall - Gulval				30	Mar. 15	-
				31	-	Dec. 13
Ellbridge				29	Apr. 28	-
				28	-	Nov. 3
Falmouth				34	Mar. 3	-
				35	-	Dec. 15
Devonshire - Barnstaple	36	Apr. 22	Oct. 26			
Arlington Court				18	Apr. 19	-
				17	-	Oct. 31
Cullompton				34	Apr. 30	-
				33	-	Oct. 24
Exmouth	36	Apr. 1	Nov. 7			
Newton Abbot				30	Apr. 11	-
				32	-	Nov. 12
Starcross				(6	Apr. 13	-)
				(8	-	Oct. 29)
Teignmouth	36	Mar. 19	Nov. 25			
Torquay				35	Mar. 18	Nov. 21
Dorsetshire - Shaftesbury	36	Apr. 21	Nov. 7			
Gloucestershire - Parkend				24	May 11	Oct. 15
Somerset - Long Ashton	36	-	Oct. 27	35	Apr. 25	-
Cannington				27	Apr. 20	-
				28	-	Oct. 29
Weston-Super-Mare				25	Mar. 30	-
				26	-	Nov. 6
Wiltshire-Larkhill				35	May 1	Oct. 26
Lacock				(8	May 14	-)
				(7	-	Oct. 10)
West Lavington				15	May 12	-
				16	-	Oct. 11
EAST-MIDLANDS REGION						
Lincolnshire - Cranwell	36	Apr. 26	Oct. 26			
Northamptonshire - Raunds				28	May 11	-
				29	-	Oct. 16
Nottinghamshire - Sutton Bonington				32	May 5	Oct. 13
EASTERN REGION						
Bedfordshire - Woburn	36	May 11	Oct. 13			
Silsoe				(7	May 9	Oct. 13)
Cambridgeshire - Cambridge (Bot. Gdns.)	36	May 6	Oct. 17			
Essex - Writtle				15	May 9	Oct. 8
Hertfordshire - Rothamsted	36	Apr. 29	Oct. 25			
Norfolk - Burlingham				(7	Apr. 23	-)
				(8	-	Oct. 30)
Sprowston				31	May 4	Oct. 26
Terrington St. Clement				17	Apr. 27	Oct. 25
Thetford				17	May 28	-
				19	-	Sep. 22
Suffolk - Felixstowe				31	Apr. 1	Nov. 21

MEAN DATES OF FIRST AND LAST SCREEN FROSTS, 1920-55 (continued)

N.A.A.S. REGIONS

	TRUE MEAN			WEIGHTED MEAN		
	Yrs.	LF	FF	Yrs.	LF	FF
WALES						
Caernarvonshire - Aber				31	Mar. 14	-
				30	-	Dec. 9
Cardiganshire - Aberystwyth				31	Apr. 14	-
				32	-	Nov. 19
Llety-Evan-Hen				29	Apr. 17	-
				28	-	Nov. 12
Flintshire - Hawarden				35	Apr. 21	Oct. 25
Monmouthshire - Usk				31	May 11	-
				32	-	Oct. 8
Montgomery - Welshpool				35	May 8	-
				34	-	Oct. 10
Pembrokeshire - Tenby	36	Apr. 5	Nov. 19			
Isle of Man - Douglas	36	Mar. 27	Dec. 6			
SCOTLAND						
Perth	36	May 10	Oct. 4			
Craibstone				31	May 5	Oct. 27
Aberdeen				34	Apr. 29	-
				35	-	Oct. 26
Boghall				30	Apr. 29	Oct. 23